DELHI

77. Hindustan Paper Corpn. Ltd.
78. Cement Corpn of India Ltd.
79. Fertilizer Corpn. of India Ltd.
80. Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.
81. Central Electronics Ltd
82. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.
83. Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd.
84. National Seeds Corpn. Ltd
85. Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corpn Ltd.
86. Food Corporation of India.
87. Indian Airlines
88. Hindustan Prefab Ltd.
89. Indian Road Construction Corpn. Ltd.
90. National Building Constn. Corpn. Ltd.
91. National Projects Constn. Corpn. Ltd.
92. NTC (Delhi, Punjab & Rajasthan) Ltd.
93. Delhi Transport Corporation
94. Hindustan Fertilizer Corpn Ltd.
95. Vayudoot
96. Intelligent Communication Systems India Ltd.

PONDICHERRY

97 Pondicherry Ashok Hotel Corpn. Ltd

OTHERS

98. Scooters India (International) GmBh W. Germany

PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX IN ORISSA

272. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted any proposal for setting up of a petrochemical complex in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) The Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. (IPICOL) has submitted a proposal to set up a Nephtha based cracker complex in Orissa.

(b) Proposals for setting up major petrochemical complexes are considered having regard to availability of feed stock and other techno-economic aspects.

IMPORT OF FERTILIZERS

273. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to import fertilizers from abroad to meet the growing demands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the existing production capacity of the fertilizer industries within the country remains unutilised; and

(d) if so, the details of the existing production capacity thereof together with the percentage of utilisation at present and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The fertilizers are imported to bridge the gap between the assessed demand and the indigenous availability. The precise quantity of fertilizers to be imported during the year 1991-92 has not yet been firmed up fully.

(c) and (d) The capacity utilization of the fertilizer plants in the country during 1990-91 has been 85.7 per cent in the case of nitrogen and 74.5 per cent in case of phosphate. Some of the plants could not achieve their full production capacity due to variety of factors including equipment break-down, interruption in power supply, unhappy industrial relations and less import of raw materials and intermediates.

[*Translation*]

IRREGULARITIES IN PURCHASE OF RICE

274. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints about the irregularities committed by the officers of Food Corporation of India in the purchase of rice in Bareilly division of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details of the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) Food Corporation of India has reported that a pseudonymous telegraphic complaint was received by them on 28-4-91 about the alleged acceptance of rice having broken grains ranging from 30 to 40 per cent at Bareilly and Shahjahanpur centres of Bareilly District of Food Corporation of India. However, even before receipt of the above, squads of the FCI Hqrs., on routine surprise checks during the January and February, 1991, found levy rice stock procured in Bareilly Distt. of FCI not conforming to the laid down uniform specifications in respect of moisture content, broken and dehusked grains.

(b) The District Manager, FCI, Bareilly, has been suspended, charge-sheeted and disciplinary proceedings against him are in progress.

PESTICIDE MENACE

276. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a serious concern about pesticides menace the world over; if so, the steps proposed towards finding effective and alternative technologies for agriculture and health sectors;

(b) whether many pesticides are implicated in causation of cancer and other health problems as brought out by various studies at Indian Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow for the past two decades; and

(c) the names of Institutes/Units engaged in finding alternatives to pesticides in Agriculture and Health sectors and their yearly budget ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) Yes Sir; harmful pesticides are banned and replaced by newer and safer ones from time to time. Towards this end, new technologies are developed indigenously and also through foreign collaboration.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

NEWS ITEM CAPTIONED "RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL IN IMPORTED PHOSPHATIC FERTILISERS"

277. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem